

# Water Well Drilling Requirements

**Beginning November 15, 2004 all domestic personal use and lawn and garden water wells installed in the city limits of Wichita require a permit prior to drilling. The homeowner or a licensed well driller may obtain an application form online or from the Department of Environmental Health. A completed permit application form may be submitted by fax, mail, or directly to the Environmental Health Department. A completed application and site plan must be received along with \$150 fee (includes application fee and inspection fee) prior to application approval by the department. The application will be reviewed by department staff and returned to the applicant. Once the well has been installed the homeowner shall notify the Environmental Health Department for inspection. The well installer is required to complete the drilling form WWC-5 and return it to KDHE and the Environmental Health Department within 30 days of drilling the well. After installation the well will be inspected by the Department of Environmental Health and upon approval the completed permit will be mailed to the property owner.**

## To Drill a well in the City of Wichita

- A well permit is required (procedure)
- State and local standards must be met
- No mandatory water testing for lawn and garden wells
- Mandatory water testing for personal use wells
- Homeowners are required to file paperwork with KDHE and the City of Wichita for self installed wells.
- Personal use (drinking) wells must be installed by a state licensed, city registered well contractor.

### Information on state and local well standards

- City of Wichita Well Code Chapter 7.30  
[www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/City+Code/Default.htm?code=1631](http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/OCI/City+Code/Default.htm?code=1631)
- State of Kansas, KDHE Bureau of Water, Article 30  
<http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waterwell/download/article30.pdf>

County GIS information for locating the well by Section Township Range

- <http://gis.sedgwick.gov/>

## Forms and examples

- City of Wichita permit application form
- WWC-5 (required Water Well Record) example
- Wellhead completion diagram
- Maintaining your private water well
- Shock chlorination procedure

## To drill a well in Sedgwick County:

- No permit is required
- State standards must be met
- No mandatory water testing

Water well owners are completely responsible for overseeing the safety of their water.

Water testing for at least bacteria and nitrates is required for all newly installed personal use wells in the City of Wichita. Other testing may be required. The Environmental Health Department recommends testing at least once a year for bacteria and nitrates as part of routine maintenance. The Environmental Health Department offers inspection services, and reporting. Inspection fees are \$100.00 plus additional sampling fees of \$25.00 for each individual sample.

### **What to look for:**

Surrounding land uses and past history of property can offer clues on what tests to run. Brochures available through the Extension Service, (316) 722-7721, are valuable resources. "Suggested Tests for Private Systems" is excellent. Be cautious when considering the purchase of water treatment equipment. Brochures available through the Extension Service; "Questions to Ask Before Buying Water Treatment Equipment."

### **What can you do to help ensure the safety of your water supply?**

1. Make sure your well is properly constructed and located. Hire a professional.
2. Make sure your sewage disposal system is properly constructed and located. Hire a professional.
3. Shock chlorinate your well annually.
4. Have your water tested at least once a year for bacteria and nitrates.

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